

LIB

Before they did oppress the people, only by colour of a *lewd* custom, they did afterwards use the same oppressions by warrant. *Davies on Ireland.*

3. Luffful; libidinous.

He is not lolling on a *lewd* love bed,
But on his knees at meditation. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

Then *lewd* Anchemolus he laid in dust,
Who stain'd his stepdam's bed with impious lust. *Dryden.*

LE'WDLY. *adj.* [from *lewd*.]

1. Wickedly; naughtily.

A sort of naughty persons, *lewdly* bent,
Have practis'd dangerously against your state. *Shakespeare.*

2. Libidinally; lustfully.

He lov'd fair lady Elfred, *lewdly* lov'd,
Whose wanton pleasures him too much did please,
That quite his heart from Guendeline remov'd. *Spenser.*

So *lewdly* dull his idle works appear,
The wretched texts deserve no comments here. *Dryden.*

LE'WDNESS. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] Lustful licentiousness.

Suffer no *lewdness*, nor indecent speech,
Th' apartment of the tender youth to reach. *Dryd. Juven.*

Damianus's letter to Nicholas is an authentick record
of the *lewdness* committed under the reign of celibacy. *Atterbury.*

LE'WDSTER. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] A lecher; one given to criminal pleasures.

Against such *lewdsters*, and their lechery,
Those that betray them do no treachery. *Shakespeare.*

LE'WIS D'OR. *n. f.* [French.] A golden French coin, in
value twelve livres, now settled at seventeen shillings. *Dict.*

LEXICO'GRAPHER. *n. f.* [αλεξικλ and γράφω; *lexicographe*,
French.] A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that
bustles himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signi-
fication of words.

Commentators and *lexicographers* acquainted with the Sy-
riac language, have given these hints in their writings on
scripture. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

LEXICO'GRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξικλ and γράφω.] The art or prac-
tice of writing dictionaries.

LEXICON. *n. f.* [αλεξικλ.] A dictionary; a book teaching
the signification of words.

Though a linguist should pride himself to have all the
tongues that Babel cleft the world into, yet if he had not
studied the solid things in them as well as the words and *lexi-
cons*, yet he were nothing so much to be esteemed a learned
man as any yeoman competently wise in his mother dialect
only. *Milton.*

LEY. *n. f.*

Ley, lee, lay, are all from the Saxon leag, a field or pas-
ture, by the usual melting of the letter x or g. *Gilpin's Cam.*

LI'ABLE. *n. f.* [liable, from *liar*, old French.] Obnoxious;
not exempt; subject.

But what is strength without a double share
Of wisdom? vast, unwieldy, burthenfome,
Proudly secure, yet liable to fall
By weakest subtleties. *Milton's Agonistes.*

The English boast of Spenser and Milton, who neither of
them wanted genius or learning; and yet both of them are
liable to many censures. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

This, or any other scheme, coming from a private hand,
might be liable to many defects. *Swift.*

LIAR. *n. f.* [from *lie*.] This word would analogically be *liar*;
but this orthography has prevailed, and the convenience of
distinction from *liar*, he who lies down, is sufficient to con-
firm it. One who tells falsehood; one who wants veracity.

She's like a *liar*, gone to burning hell!
'Twas I that kill'd her. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

He approves the common *liar*, fame,
Who speaks him thus at Rome. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleop.*

I do not reject his observation as untrue, much less con-
demn the person himself as a *liar*, whensoever it seems to
be contradicted. *Boyle.*

Thy better soul abhors a *liar's* part,
Wife is thy voice, and noble is thy heart. *Pope's Odyssey.*

LI'ARD. *adj.*

1. Mingled roan.

2. *Liard* in Scotland denotes gray-haired: as, he's a *liard* old
man. *Markham.*

LIBA'TION. *n. f.* [libatio, Latin.]

1. The act of pouring wine on the ground in honour of some
deity.

In digging new earth pour in some wine, that the vapour
of the earth and wine may comfort the spirits, provided it
be not taken for a heathen sacrifice, or libation to the earth.
Bacon's Natural History.

2. The wine so poured.

They had no other crime to object against the Christians,
but that they did not offer up libations, and the smoke of
sacrifices, to dead men. *Stillington on Rom. Idolatry.*

The goblet then she took, with nectar crown'd,
Sprinkling the first libations on the ground. *Dryden's An.*

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LI'BEARD. *n. f.* [libard, German; leopardus, Lat.] A leopard.
Make the *libard* stern,
Leave roaring, when in rage he for revenge did yearn.

The *libard*, and the tiger, as the mole
Rising, the crumbled earth above them threw. *Milton.*

The torrid parts of Africk are by Pilo resembled to a
libard's skin, the distance of whose spots represent the dif-
ferences of habitations, or towns of Africk. *Brerewood.*

LI'BEL. *n. f.* [libellus, Latin; libelle, French.]

1. A satire; defamatory writing; a lampoon.

Are we reproached for the name of Christ? that ignominy
serves but to advance our future glory; every such *libel* here
becomes panegyric there. *Decay of Piety.*

Good heav'n! that fots and knaves should be so vain,
To wish their vile resemblance may remain!
And stand recorded, at their own request,
To future days, a *libel* or a jest. *Dryden.*

2. [In the civil law.] A declaration or charge in writing against
a person in court.

To LI'BEL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To spread defamation;
generally written or printed.

Sweet scrawls to fly about the streets of Rome:
What's this but *libelling* against the senate? *Shakespeare.*

He, like a privileged spy, whom nothing can
Discredit, *libels* now 'gainst each great man. *Donne.*

To LI'BEL. *v. a.* To satirize; to lampoon;

Is then the peevish of England any thing dishonoured
when a peer suffers for his treason? if he be *libelled*, or any
way defamed, he has his scandalum magnatum to punish the
offender. *Dryden.*

But what so pure which envious tongues will spare?
Some wicked wits have *libelled* all the fair. *Pope.*

LI'BELLER. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] A defamer by writing; a lam-
pooner.

Our common *libellers* are as free from the imputation of
wit, as of morality. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

The squibs are those who, in the common phrase, are
called *libellers* and lampooners. *Taylor.*

The common *libellers*, in their invectives, tax the church
with an insatiable desire of power and wealth, equally com-
mon to all bodies of men. *Swift.*

LI'BELLOUS. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] Defamatory.

His most malicious surmise that had ever been brew-
ed, howsoever countenanced by a *libellous* pamphlet. *Watson.*

LI'BERAL. *adj.* [liberalis, Latin; liberal, French.]

1. Not mean; not low in birth; not low in mind.

2. Becoming a gentleman.

3. Munificent; generous; bountiful; not parcimonious.

Her name was Mercy, which well known over all
To be both gracious and eke liberal. *Spens. Fa. Quen.*

Sparing would shew a worse sin than ill doctrine.
Men of his way should be most liberal,
They're set here for examples. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

Needs must the pow'r
That made us, and for us this ample world,
Be infinitely good, and of his good
As liberal and free, as infinite. *Milton.*

There is no art better than to be liberal of praise and
commendation to others, in that wherein a man's self hath
any perfection. *Bacon's Essay.*

The liberal are secure alone;
For what we frankly give, for ever is our own. *Granville.*

Several clergymen, otherwise little fond of obscure terms,
are, in their sermons, very liberal of all those which they
find in ecclesiastical writers, as if it were our duty to under-
stand them. *Swift.*

LIBERALITY. *n. f.* [liberalitas, Latin; liberalité, Fr.] Mu-
nificence; bounty; generosity; generous profusion.

Why should he despair, that knows to court
With words, fair looks, and liberality? *Shakespeare.*

Such moderation with thy bounty join,
That thou may'st nothing give that is not thine;
That liberality is but cast away,
Which makes us borrow what we cannot pay. *Denham.*

LIBERALLY. *adv.* [from liberal.] Bounteously; bountifully;
largely.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that
giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not. *James i. 5.*

LI'BERTINE. *n. f.* [libertin, French.]

1. One unconfin'd; one at liberty.

When he speaks,
The air, a charter'd libertine, is still;
And the mute wonder lurketh in men's ears,
To steal his sweet and honied sentences. *Shakespeare's Hen. V.*

2. One who lives without restraint or law.

Man, the lawless libertine, may rove
Free and unquestion'd. *Rowe's Jane Shore.*

Want of power is the only bound that a libertine puts to
his views upon any of the sex. *Clarissa.*

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2. One who pays no regard to the precepts of religion.

They say this town is full of couzenage,
As nimble jugglers, that deceive the eye;
Disguised cheaters, prating mountebanks,
And many such like libertines of sin. *Shakespeare.*

That word may be applied to some few libertines in the
audience. *Collier's View of the Stage.*

3. [In law; libertinus, Lat.] A freedman; or rather, the son
of a freedman.

Some persons are forbidden to be accusers on the score of
their sex, as women; others on the score of their age, as
pupils and infants; others on the score of their conditions, as
libertines against their patrons. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

LI'BERTINE. *adj.* [libertin, French.] Licentious; irreligious.

There are men that marry not, but chuse rather a libertine
and impure single life, than to be yoked in marriage. *Bacon.*

Might not the queen make diligent enquiry, if any person
about her should happen to be of libertine principles or mor-
als. *Swift's Project for Advancement of Religion.*

LI'BERTINISM. *n. f.* [from libertine.] Irreligion; licentiousness
of opinions and practice.

That spirit of religion and seriousness vanished all at once,
and a spirit of liberty and libertinism, of infidelity and pro-
faneness, started up in the room of it. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

LI'BERTY. *n. f.* [liberté, French; libertas, Latin.]

1. Freedom, as opposed to slavery.

My master knows of your being here, and hath threatened
to put me into everlasting liberty, if I tell you of it; for he
swears, he'll turn me away. *Shakespeare.*

O liberty! thou goddess, heav'nly bright!
Profuse of blis, and pregnant with delight,
Eternal pleasures in thy presence reign. *Addison.*

2. Freedom, as opposed to necessity.

Liberty is the power in any agent to do, or forbear, any
particular action, according to the determination, or thought
of the mind, whereby either of them is preferred to the
other. *Locke.*

As it is in the motions of the body, so it is in the thoughts
of our minds: where any one is such, that we have power
to take it up, or lay it by, according to the preference of the
mind, there we are at liberty. *Locke.*

3. Privilege; exemption; immunity.

His majesty gave not an intire country to any, much less
did he grant jura regalia, or any extraordinary liberties. *Davies.*

4. Relaxation of restraint.

5. Leave; permission.

I shall take the liberty to consider a third ground, which,
with some men, has the same authority. *Locke.*

LI'BDINOUS. *n. f.* [libidinofus, Latin.] Lewd; lustful.

None revolt from the faith; because they must not look upon
a woman to lust after her, but because they are much more
restrained from the perpetration of their lusts. If wanton
glances and libidinous thoughts had been permitted by the gos-
pel, they would have apostatized nevertheless. *Bentley.*

LI'BDINOUSLY. *adv.* [from libidinofus.] Lewdly; lustfully.

LI'BRAL. *adj.* [libralis, Latin.] Of a pound weight. *Dict.*

LI'BRARIAN. *n. f.* [librarius, Latin.]

1. One who has the care of a library;

2. One who transcribes or copies books.

Charybdis thrice swallows, and thrice refunds, the waves:
this must be understood of regular tides. There are indeed
but two tides in a day, but this is the error of the libra-
rians. *Broome's Notes on the Odyssey.*

LI'BRARY. *n. f.* [librerie, Fr.] A large collection of books,
publick or private.

Then as they 'gan his library to view,
And antique registers for to avise,
There chanced to the prince's hand to rise
An ancient book, high Briton's monuments. *Fa. Qu.*

Make choice of all my library,
And so beguile thy sorrow. *Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus.*

I have given you the library of a painter, and a catalogue
of such books as he ought to read. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

To LI'BRATE. *v. a.* [libre, Latin.] To poise; to balance;
to hold in equipoise.

LI'BRATION. *n. f.* [libratio, Latin; libration, French.]

1. The state of being balanced.

This is what may be said of the balance, and the libra-
tion, of the body. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

Their pinions still
In loose libration stretch'd, to trust the void
Trembling refuse. *Thomson's Spring.*

2. [In astronomy.]

Libration is the balancing motion or trepidation in the fir-
manent, whereby the declination of the sun, and the lati-
tude of the stars, change from time to time. Astronomers
likewise ascribe to the moon a libration motion, or motion of
trepidation, which they pretend is from east to west, and
from north to south, because that, at full moon, they some-
times discover parts of her disk which are not discovered at

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other times. These kinds are called, the one a *libration*
in longitude, and the other a *libration* in latitude. Besides
this, there is a third kind, which they call an apparent *libra-
tion*, and which consists in this, that when the moon is at
her greatest elongation from the south, her axis being then
almost perpendicular to the plane of the ecliptick, the sun
must enlighten towards the north pole of the moon some
parts which he did not before; and that, on the contrary,
some parts of those which he enlightened towards the oppo-
site pole are obscured; and this produces the same effect which
the libration in latitude does. *Dict. Trav.*

Those planets which move upon their axis, do not all
make intire revolutions; for the moon maketh only a kind
of libration, or a reciprocated motion on her own axis. *Grew.*

LI'BRATORY. *adj.* [from *libra*, Lat.] Balancing; playing like
a balance.

LICE, the plural of *louse*.

Red blisters rising on their paps appear,
And flaming carbuncles, and noisome sweat,
And clammy dews, that loathsome lice beget;
Till the slow creeping evil eats his way. *Dryden's Virg.*

LI'CEBAKE. *n. f.* [lice and bane.] A plant.

LICENCE. *n. f.* [licentia, Latin; licence, French.]

1. Exorbitant liberty; contempt of legal and necessary restraint.

Some of the wiser seeing that a popular licence is indeed the
many-headed tyranny, prevailed with the rest to make Mu-
fidorus their chief. *Sidney.*

Taunt my faults
With such full licence, as both truth and malice
Have power to utter. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleopatra.*

They baul for freedom in their senseless moods,
And still revolt when truth would set them free;
Licence they mean, when they cry liberty. *Milton.*

The privilege that ancient poets claim,
Now turn'd to licence by too just a name. *Rescommen.*

Though this be a state of liberty, yet it is not a state of
licence; though man, in that state, have an uncontrollable
liberty to dispose of his person or possessions, yet he has not
liberty to destroy himself. *Locke.*

2. A grant of permission.

They sent some to bring them a licence from the senate.

Those few abstract names that the schools forged, and put
into the mouths of their scholars, could never yet get admi-
ttance into common use, or obtain the licence of publick ap-
probation. *Locke.*

We procured a licence of the duke of Parma to enter the
theatre and gallery. *Addison on Italy.*

3. Liberty; permission.

It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man
to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers
face to face, and have licence to answer for himself. *Atty.*

To LI'CENSE. *v. a.* [licencier, French.]

1. To set at liberty.

He would play well, and willingly, at some games of
greatest attention, which shewed, that when he listed he
could *license* his thoughts. *Wotton.*

2. To permit by a legal grant.

Wit's titans brav'd the skies,
And the presb groud with *licens'd* blasphemies. *Pope.*

LI'CENSER. *n. f.* [from *license*.] A granter of permission; com-
monly a tool of power.

LICENTIA'TE. *n. f.* [licentiatus, low Latin.]

1. A man who uses license.

The *licentia'tes* somewhat licentious, least they should
prejudice poetical liberty, will pardon themselves for doubling
or rejecting a letter, if the sense fall aptly. *Camden.*

2. A degree in Spanish universities.

A man might, after that time, sue for the degree of a li-
centiate or master in this faculty. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

To LI'CENTIATE. *v. a.* [licentier, French.] To permit; to
encourage by license.

We may not hazard either the stifling of generous inclina-
tions, or the *licentiating* of any thing that is coarse. *L'Estrange.*

LICENTIOUS. *n. f.* [licenciosus, French; licentiosus, Latin.]

1. Unrestrained by law or morality.

Later ages pride, like corn-fed steed,
Abus'd her plenty, and fat swollen encrease,
To all *licentious* lust, and gan exceed
The measure of her mean, and natural first need. *Fa. Qu.*

Should'st thou but hear I were *licentious*?
And that this body, consecrate to thee,
With ruffian lust should be contaminate. *Shakespeare.*

2. Presumptuous; unconfin'd.

The Tyber, whose *licentious* waves,
So often overflow'd the neighbouring fields,
Now runs a smooth and inoffensive course. *Rescommen.*

LICENTIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *licentious*.] With too much liber-
ty; without just restraint.